

REMARKS

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesies and thoughtful treatment accorded Applicant's undersigned representative during the February 4, 2010 telephonic interview, which was initiated by the Examiner. This Supplemental Amendment has been prepared based on the discussions of that interview. Claims 7 to 18 remain pending in the application, of which Claims 7, 11 and 15 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

The discussion of the interview related to the clarity of the subject matter of the claims. Specifically, the clarity of how the communication apparatus can detect that it and the controlled apparatus are connected via the second transmission medium if no response to a request sent over a first transmission medium is received was discussed. Applicant's undersigned representative pointed out that this feature is described in the specification with regard to page 5, line 4 to page 9, line 27. As a result of the discussions, it was suggested that the claims be further amended to make this feature even clearer. Thus, the supplemental amendment is being submitted for that purpose.

In relation to the rejections set forth in the July 31, 2009 Office Action and the claim language as now presented herein, the following is submitted as supplemental patentability arguments.

In the Office Action, Claims 7 to 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Publication No. 2001/0033554 (Ayyagari) in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0111138 (Park). A point of novelty discussed in the November 30, 2009 Amendment was that the applied art was not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of Claims 7, 11

and 15, and in particular, was not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the features of a communication apparatus i) transmitting a request for inquiring whether a controlled device having an obtained IP address is connected to a first transmission medium, and ii) determining whether the communication apparatus and a controlled device are directly connected to a first transmission medium, wherein the determining unit/step (a) determines that the communication apparatus and the controlled device are directly connected to the first transmission medium, if a response corresponding to the request is received from the controlled device, and (b) determines that the communication apparatus and the controlled device are not directly connected to the first transmission medium, if no response to the request is received from the controlled device and the communication apparatus and the controlled device are connected via a second transmission medium different from the first transmission medium, wherein the communication apparatus displays warning information on a display unit if the determining unit determines that the communication apparatus and the controlled device are not directly connected to the first transmission medium and the communication apparatus and the controlled device are connected via the second transmission medium.

In light of the further amendments, it is hereby submitted that the applied are is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the features of a communication apparatus i) transmitting a request for inquiring whether a controlled device having an obtained IP address is directly connected to the communication apparatus via a first transmission medium which uses a second communication protocol, and ii) determining whether the communication apparatus and a controlled device are directly connected to the first

transmission medium for communication via the second communication protocol, wherein the determining unit/step (a) determines that the communication apparatus and the controlled device are directly connected to the first transmission medium, if a response corresponding to the transmitted request is received from the controlled device, and (b) determines that the communication apparatus and the controlled device are not directly connected to the first transmission medium but that the controlled device is connected to the network via a second transmission medium different from the first transmission medium, if no response corresponding to the request is received from the controlled device, whereby the communication apparatus and the controlled device are not able to communicate with each other using the second communication protocol via the first communication medium but are able to communicate with each other via the first communication protocol, and wherein the communication apparatus displays warning information on a display unit if the determining unit/step determines that the communication apparatus and the controlled device are not directly connected to the first transmission medium and the controlled device is connected to the network via the second transmission medium.

The disclosure of both Ayyagari and Park as discussed in the November 30, 2009 Amendment are incorporated by reference and repeated herein. However, it is submitted that neither of those references, alone or in combination, would have resulted in the foregoing features of the claims.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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